

9th Annual Housing Partnership Board Meeting

The Housing Partnership of the Fox Cities held our 9th Annual Meeting on October 2. Over 60 people attended the event to say farewell to Jim Wenner, who has served as the Executive Director of the Housing Partnership since the beginning. Jim will serve as the Rehab Manager for the Housing Partnership until June 1997, managing construction of our properties and planning for future project development.

Several speakers described the important role Jim has played in developing the organization and making it what it is today.

- Dick Kendall from DURALAM spoke about his company's involvement in the rehab of one home. DURALAM employees sponsored a house on Brewster Street, raising funds and providing the volunteers for construction. Dick described the satisfaction DURALAM employees experienced in being involved in the completion of the home.

- Jack Blair, a member of the retired crew spoke about why the retired crew works so hard every Tuesday and Wednesday at our properties. Working with each other, working with Jim and seeing an old house

"made new" are some of the important reasons.

- On behalf of the Board, Dr. John Swanson reviewed Jim's accomplishments since the start of HPI in 1987. One house at a time, our organization has rehabbed 41 homes in Appleton and Neenah!

Jim started the Housing Partnership with an eye toward increasing the stock of affordable housing in our community. That he has done; at the same time he has managed the growth of an organization from its infancy to one with many employees and programs. We thank him for his tireless efforts to improve housing in our community.



Jim Wenner, Jim Bork, and John Swanson at the 9th Annual Meeting

What is the Housing Partnership doing now?

The Housing Partnership was established in 1987 to promote affordable housing in the Fox Cities. Since that time, we have expanded our programs to achieve our goals and as an organization we look much different now than we did in 1987.

The Housing Partnership now promotes affordable housing through three basic programs. First, our *homeownership program* allows qualified low income families to purchase homes in our community at a price they can afford. These homes are renovated by the home buyers working alongside our many volunteers. The property becomes an asset to our community and a *home* for our families. Since 1987, we have completed 16 homes, and three more are in progress.

The *affordable rental program* provides rentals to those not able to afford market rate rental prices. The Housing Partnership purchases duplexes, renovates them and rents them out to families requiring this type of housing assistance. Finally, the *transitional housing program* provides the same type of rental assistance, with the added feature of "supportive services". The types of life skills/development training provided assists the families in moving away from homelessness.

Our available rental units have increased to meet the demand for

these programs. We have a total of 23 rental units available for the affordable and transitional housing programs. This brings our total production since 1987 to 41 units, and we have another 8-10 in progress or in the planning stages. We are currently serving a total of 244 people in all of our various programs. We are excited and pleased with our growth!

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Home Buyer Program

offers affordable homes for purchase by low-income families

Affordable Rental Program

provides rental units to low income families with monthly rent based upon income

Transitional Housing Program

provides housing and supportive services to families-in transition

Housing Partnership Board of Directors and Staff

Board of Directors 1996/97

James Baumbach
James Bork
Sue Detienne
Patricia Ehaney
William Geenen
Candy Kriner
Harvey Lorenz
James Miron
Pamela Ramirez
Timothy Sciborski
John D. Swanson M.D.
Cathie Tierney

Thanks to our retiring

Board members,
Fr. John Zickert and Joyce Bayer!

Housing Partnership Staff

Katherine Kamp
Development Director

Laurie Schumacher
Family Services Coordinator

Diana Shurburn
Maintenance Assistant

Cindy Steinke
Office Assistant

Julie Walborn
Director of Resident Services

Jim Wenner
Rehab Manager

What will we do next?

What next? During 1997, we hope to continue work on the three single family residences we have in progress, one in Neenah and two in Appleton. We also hope to add another duplex to our rental properties this year. And, 1997 will bring a second large scale project (our first was Open Door) to the Housing Partnership with the development of our property on Newberry Street in Appleton. We are in the planning stages for this property and will begin serious efforts over the next six months to determine the best use for this land. We'll keep you informed!



...our latest project...

Speaker's Bureau

Someone from our Board or our staff is willing to tell your company or civic organization about the services offered by the Housing Partnership. We have a slide presentation that tells about the organization and shows some of the results. Please call us at 731-6644 if you are interested in hearing what we have to say!

Interested in Volunteering?

Groups work on our houses on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. We are always looking for new individuals and/or groups who are interested in working one time or regularly. If you have a morning or one day a week, we can work something out. Call Kathy at 731-6644.

Too Much Paper?

Do you want to receive the newsletter? If so, do nothing, you will be kept on the mailing list. If you are not interested in receiving mailings from the Housing Partnership, please send back the address portion of this newsletter or call our office and we will remove you from our list.

Keep us in mind....

As the end of the year comes, please keep our organization in mind...we rely on individual contributions for renovation of the homes and for the costs of operating our organization.



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